

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

55524  
DRAFTED BY:ARA:DWCOX  
APPROVED BY:DWCOX  
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P 250611Z MAY 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122302

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

FOLLOWING MONTEVIDEO 1723 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BUENOS  
AIRES DIA USCINCSO MAY 25; REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 1723

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, UY  
SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL-MILITARY CONFRONTATION

REFS: A) MVD 1706; B) MVD 1711 AND PREVIOUS

1. TENSION OF AFTERNOON AND EVENING OF MAY 22 HAS ABATED TEMPOR-  
ARILY. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH MILITARY AT BOISO LANZA (REFTEL A),  
PRESIDENT BORDABERRY RETURNED TO HIS OFFICE AND HELD HIS  
REGULAR THURSDAY EVENING DECREE SIGNING SESSION WITH MINISTERS.  
HOWEVER, JUNTA DE GENERALES MEETING CONTINUED FOR SEVERAL HOURS  
MORE.

2. WE GETTING REPORTS WHICH CONFLICT WITH OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK  
PRESENTED BY SOURCE CITED IN REFTEL B. BORDABERRY RESPONDED MAY  
22 TO MEMORANDUM PRESENTED TO HIM BY THE MILITARY EVENING MAY 20  
BUT THERE IS NO OTHER CLEAR INDICATION THAT ANY COMPROMISE WAS  
REACHED. WE BELIEVE THAT MILITARY TOOK HARD LINE MAY 20, INSIS-  
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TING AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT PEILE BE REINSTATED AND THAT BORDA-  
BERRY CLARIFY HIS POSITION WITH RESPECT TO 1976 ELECTIONS.  
BORDABERRY WENT BACK TO MILITARY MAY 22 (REFTEL A) WITH A SIMILAR-  
LY FIRM POSTURE REJECTING MANY MILITARY DEMANDS AND ACCUSATIONS.  
WHILE THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THE PRESIDENT HANDLED

HIMSELF WELL AND WAS IMPRESSIVE, THE FACT REMAINS THAT AFTER HE DEPARTED THE GENERALS HAD BEEN GIVEN A REPLY WHICH PROVIDED NEITHER A SOLUTION NOR A WAY OUT.

3. WHILE THE NATION THIS AFTERNOON PAUSES TO REPATRIATE COL. LATORRE'S REMAINS A COMMITTEE OF GENERAL AND FLAG OFFICERS IS WORKING ON RECOMMENDATION TO BE PRESENTED TO THEIR PEERS AND THEN TO THE PRESIDENT. THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (GENERALS EDUARDO ZUBIA AND GROPP, RADM MARQUEZ AND BRIGADIER CARDOZO) IS ENCOURAGING IN THE ZUBIA AND CARDIZO, AT LEAST, ARE MODERATES. THE FACT THAT THEY ARE MEETING IS ALSO ENCOURAGING.

4. WHILE THE TWO CONTENDERS ARE STILL FAR APART, THEY CONTINUE TO NEGOTIATE AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE EITHER DESIRES A SHOWDOWN NOW. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE MILITARY, ON THE ONE HAND, DOES NOT WANT TO FORCE BORDABERRY OUT AND THAT HE, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD DECIDED NOT TO RESIGN BUT TO FORCE THEM TO REMOVE HIM IF THEY WANT HIM OUT. HOWEVER, BORDABERRY IS STANDING ON PRINCIPLE AND NOT ONLY THE SUBSTANCE BUT ALSO THE TONE OF THE MILITARY'S NEXT APPROACH TO HIM WILL WEIGH HEAVILY ON HIS REACTION.

5. WITH RESPECT TO THE CABINET WE BELIEVE SOME MINISTERIAL CHANGES ARE PROBABLE. EACH BATCH OF RUMORS INCLUDES A DIFFERENT GROUP OF MINISTERS SLATED TO LEAVE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO REPORT AS SITUATION DEVELOPS. HAAHR UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JUNTA, NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, POLITICAL MILITARY RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE122302  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:**  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750184-0090  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197505103/baaaaktv.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971014  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PINS, UY, (ALVAREZ, GREGORIO), (BORDABERRY AROCENA, JUAN MARIA), (PEILE, EDUARDO), (VEGH VILLEGAS)  
**To:** TOKYO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006